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For information contact:

CB16-176, FT-900A (16-09)

Matthew Przybocki

(301) 763-3148

Mala Kline

(301) 763-2311

Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products September 2016

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary September steel imports were \$1.8 billion (2.5 million metric tons) compared to the preliminary August totals of \$2.0 billion (2.7 million metric tons).

The September change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected decreases primarily in reinforcing bars; blooms, billets and slabs; and standard rails. Increases occurred primarily in all other rails; metal coated sheets and strips; and galvanized electrolyte sheets and strip. Decreases occurred primarily with Russia. Increases occurred primarily with Brazil, China, and Belgium.

The year to date final statistics through August 2016 showed steel imports of 20.0 million metric tons compared with 25.5 million metric tons through August 2015. The largest commodity decreases occurred primarily in oil country goods. Increases occurred primarily in reinforcing bars, wire rods, and tin plate. The largest country decreases occurred primarily with China. Increases occurred primarily with South Africa, Belgium, and Ukraine.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit our web site at www.census.gov/trade. On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is November 25, 2016.